

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 00762 01 OF 02 161552Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 L-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /065 W

----- 053391

P R 161538Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7293

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00762

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, WB, GW, GE, UR, EB, UK, FR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR COMMEMORATION OF WWII  
VICTORY ANNIVERSARY

REF: A) BONN 0148; B) STATE 276428; AND PREVIOUS.

SUMMARY: US, UK, AND FRENCH BONN GROUP REPS HAVE RECONFIRMED THEIR CAPITALS' VIEW THAT ALLIES SHOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN BERLIN. BROADER QUESTION OF POSSIBLE CELEBRATIONS ELSEWHERE, HOWEVER, NOT RESOLVED. END. SUMMARY.

1. AT JAN 14 TRIPARTITE BONN GROUP MEETING, UK REP (CULLIMORE) SAID HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBJECT FROM LONDON AS FOLLOWS: A) LORD AVON (SIR ANTHONY EDEN) HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM TASS INVITING HIM TO SEND LETTER TO SOVIET PRESS MARKING THE CAPITULATION OF NAZI GERMANY. HIS PRESENT INTENTION IS TO SEND MESSAGE IN WHICH HE WOULD REFER TO VALOR OF ALL ALLIED  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 00762 01 OF 02 161552Z

ARMIES AND CONCLUDE THAT NOW IS TIME TO THINK CONSTRUCTIVE

TIVELY ABOUT THE FUTURE RATHER THAN DWELL ON THE PAST. CULLIMORE SAID FCO WISHED TO KNOW IF SIMILAR APPROACHES HAD BEEN MADE BY TASS TO AMERICAN OR FRENCH WW II FIGURES; B) FCO WISHED TO KNOW IF AMERICANS OR FRENCH HAD BEEN RECIPIENTS OF ANY OTHER SOVIET APPROACHES ON QUESTION OF WW II VICTORY COMMEMORATION; C) FCO BELIEVES USSR WILL MAKE BIG THING OF 30TH ANNIVERSARY AND WILL ATTEMPT TO DRAW ALLIES INTO CELEBRATIONS. SOVIETS WILL PROBABLY MAKE USE OF OCCASION FOR MAJOR PROPAGANDA EFFORT RE FINAL STAGE OF CSCE AND MEETING OF COMMUNIST PARTIES IN EAST BERLIN. BRITISH VIEW IS THAT THREE ALLIES SHOULD AVOID OFFICIAL PARTICIPATION, BUT LONDON SEES NO HARM IF WARTIME LEADERS ATTEND REUNIONS OR SEND MESSAGES--IF DONE DISCREETLY; AND D) FCO IS THINKING OF HANDLING ENTIRE MATTER VIS A VIS FRG IN BONN GROUP, AND WOULD SUGGEST THE FOUR REACH AGREED LINE FOR RESPONSE TO SOVIETS AND POSSIBLY FOR USE IN NATO.

2. US REP RESPONDED THAT THE EMBASSY HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY APPROACHES BY TASS SIMILAR TO THAT MADE TO LORD AVON, NOR OF ANY NEW APPROACHES ON SUBJECT BY SOVIETS TO US OFFICIALS. REGARDING FCO QUESTION ON ALLIED PARTICIPATION IN COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, US REP DREW ON REFTTEL B TO RESTATE US POSITION ON SUCH EVENTS IN BERLIN. US AND FRENCH (BOISSIEU) REPS SAID REGARDING POINT D THAT QUADRIPARTITE HANDLING OF MATTER IN BONN GROUP A QUESTIONABLE PROPOSITION. MORE APPROPRIATELY, A TRI-PARTITE POSITION COULD BE DEVELOPED AND THEN THE GERMANS COULD BE INFORMED. REGARDING NATO, FRENCH REP SAID HE SERIOUSLY DOUBTED THE USEFULNESS OF RAISING MATTER THERE. US REP SAID INFORMING NATO OF WHAT POSTURE THREE ALLIES WOULD TAKE ON THE SUBJECT MIGHT BE OF SOME VALUE.

3. BOISSIEU THEN GAVE NEGATIVE REPLY TO CULLIMORE'S QUERY (POINT A) ON POSSIBLE TASS APPROACHES. RE SOVIET AND GDR PLANS FOR COMMEMORATION IN BERLIN, BOISSIEU SAID THERE SEEMED TO BE TWO CATEGORIES OF INVITEES. THE FIRST, FORMER RESISTANCE LEADERS, WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO INFLUENCE AND PARIS BELIEVES THAT THE COMMUNISTS AMONG

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 00762 01 OF 02 161552Z

THEM WILL POSSIBLY ACCEPT INVITATIONS FOR EVENTS IN BERLIN AND WILL MOST PROBABLY ACCEPT ANY FOR MOSCOW. A PARTICULAR FRENCH PROBLEM IS THAT THE PRESENT GDR AMBASSADOR IN PARIS IS A FORMER CAPTAIN IN THE FRENCH RESISTANCE AND HE IS MAKING A BIG PUSH TO GET HIS FORMER COLLEAGUES TO ATTEND IN BERLIN. THE SECOND CATEGORY IS FRENCH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THE DEFENSE MINISTER AND CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY (BOTH OF WHOM WERE OFFICERS IN

UNITS LOCATED IN THE USSR DURING THE WAR) HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED INVITATIONS, BUT THEY WOULD BE DECLINED. HE ADDED THAT FRENCH OFFICIALS WOULD BE PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL GOF CEREMONIES IN PARIS TO MARK THE CAPITULATION. REGARDING COMMEMORATIONS HELD BY SOVIETS OUTSIDE OF BERLIN AND GERMANY, BOISSIEU SAID IT WOULD NOT MAKE SENSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 00762 02 OF 02 161551Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 L-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /065 W

----- 053388

P R 161538Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7294

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00762

FOR ALLIES TO BOYCOTT THESE. HE SAID THE ALLIED AMBASSADORS HAVE ALWAYS ATTENDED THE ANNUAL CELEBRATIONS IN MOSCOW AND SUCH EVENTS FOR 1975 COULD CONSEQUENTLY NOT BE IGNORED.

4. BOISSIEU SUGGESTED FOLLOWING AS ALLIED POLICY: A) NO PARTICIPATION IN ANY CEREMONIES HELD IN BERLIN OR GERMANY; AND B) MAINTAIN SAME LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS ELSEWHERE AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS. US AND UK REP RESPONDED THAT POINT A WAS REALLY ALREADY AGREED. RE

POINT B, THEY FELT QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS  
OUTSIDE GERMANY WAS MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION IN CAPITALS.  
THEY WOULD SIMPLY REPORT PRESENT DISCUSSION TO AUTHORI-  
TIES FOR THEIR USE IN FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF MATTER.  
UK REP SAID BRITISH WOULD INFORM FRG OF TASS LETTER TO  
LORD AVON.

5. COMMENT: THE PURELY BERLIN ASPECT OF ALLIED POLICY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 00762 02 OF 02 161551Z

ON THIS QUESTION APPEARS TO BE RESOLVED: THE THREE  
CAPITALS AGREE THAT THERE WILL BE NO ALLIED PARTICIPATION  
IN EVENTS HELD IN BERLIN (AMBASSADORS WORMSER AND  
HENDERSON HAVE ALREADY GIVEN YEFREMOV THEIR NEGATIVE  
RESPONSES ON THIS--SEE USBER 034 AND 076, AND YEFREMOV  
WILL UNDOUBTEDLY RAISE MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND  
DURING THEIR LUNCH SCHEDULED FOR JAN 28.) THE BROADER  
ASPECTS, HOWEVER, ARE YET TO BE RESOLVED. GIVEN BONN'S  
VERY STRONG FEELINGS ON SUCH CELEBRATIONS "ANYWHERE ON  
GERMAN SOIL" (REFTEL A), EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IN US  
INTERESTS FOR THE US GOVERNMENT NOT TO ACCEPT ANY EASTERN  
INVITATIONS FOR EVENTS WHICH MIGHT BE HELD IN POTSDAM  
(FRENCH SENSITIVITIES ALSO INVOLVED) OR AT TORGAU ON THE  
ELBE TO MARK MEETING OF SOVIET AND AMERICAN ARMIES  
(PARTICIPATION BY PRIVATE US GROUPS AS IN PAST COULD, OF  
COURSE, CONTINUE). EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMA-  
TION WHICH DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE ON BRITISH POINTS A AND B.  
CASH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BONN00762  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750017-0322  
**From:** BONN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750148/aaaabpoz.tel  
**Line Count:** 201  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BONN 0148, 75 STATE 276428  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <14 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR COMMEMORATION OF WWII VICTORY ANNIVERSARY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, WB, GE, GC, UR, UK, FR, TASS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006